

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

ISSUE SUMMARY:

The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) leads and coordinates EPA engagement with the White House, National Security Council (NSC), and other federal departments and agencies on the development of new homeland and national security policy and requirements. OHS coordinates all intelligence activities with the Intelligence Community and the interagency on the EPA's intelligence and counterintelligence responsibilities.

UPCOMING MILESTONES:

- *OHS has led and expects to soon implement the EPA's Insider Threat Program (ITP), consistent with Executive Order 13587 and required by national policy. It must then implement the ITP to ensure, at minimum, that EPA achieves basic Initial Operational Capability (IOC), with a clear plan for Full Operational Capability (FOC). The goal is to have EPA at or close to FOC by the end of FY21*
- *OHS leads the Agency's Homeland Security Collaborative Network (HSCN). OHS schedules and staff's monthly meetings/conference calls, which feature topics to keep the agency's homeland security cadre aware and informed.*
- *OHS leads the agency's policy coordination and development in support of new homeland and national security initiatives to identify and provide policy input representing EPA equities in specific areas, including:*
 - *OHS will continue coordination related to the National Biodefence Strategy.*
 - *Updates to the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)*
 - *OHS will strengthen coordination and integration with the Office of Water on cybersecurity issues*
 - *OHS will continue to develop the agency strategy on disaster mitigation and recovery in support of EPA Order 2074*
- *OHS is improving a new framework for strengthening agency coordination, response and documentation of its major activities with the NSC and related cross-government homeland security workgroups.*
 - *OHS, through this new initiative, will help the agency, presently involved in perhaps dozens of these federal interagency homeland security groups, better identify, track and document its involvement.*
- *OHS continues to expand foreign intelligence and threat reporting to EPA Regions.*
 - *It has strengthened foreign intelligence integration support to OITA, ORD, and OAR, with specific focus on Insider Threats, theft of intellectual property and Counterintelligence.*
 - *OHS will continue to increase intelligence integration support to all Program Offices, but with a stronger focus with OW, OMS/OISP, ORD, OLEM and OCEFT with respect to threats and mitigation strategies to key national infrastructure and critical resources with focus on cyber defense, water/waste water systems, and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear event mitigation and response, and environmental crimes.*
 - *OHS will continue to serve as the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) program office for EPA, responsible for receiving, reviewing, disseminating, consolidating, and staffing, and submitting the agency's response. CFIUS is an interagency committee that serves the President in overseeing the national security implications of foreign investment in the US economy.*

BACKGROUND:

The OHS mission requires broad situational awareness and understanding of EPA's homeland and national security programs. The office is the Agency's central coordinator for homeland and national security program development and communication. This includes stewardship of the EPA's HSCN, and leadership of the Agency's HQ Office and Regional Homeland Security Coordinators. OHS, given its location in the Administrator's Office, facilitates the resolution of cross-office/region conflicts, advocates a "One EPA" approach to homeland and national security matters, and communicates key developments in national-level policies, plans, and activities. It also provides timely and useful information to the HQ Offices and Regions for decisions and actions that, in turn, can result in enhanced preparedness, improved security and better resource utilization.

- *OHS provides leadership and coordination across the agency at each stage of a national emergency to support the National Preparedness Goal (Presidential Policy Directive 8): prevention, protection, mitigation, response and disaster recovery; to be better prepared for large-scale, wide-spread and unique challenging events.*
- *OHS, in collaboration with OCFO and with EPA senior management support, stewards the agency's \$80 million+ homeland security budget and identifies program resource needs.*
 - *OHS works to ensure that, in all EPA budgeting and planning processes, the agency's highest homeland security needs are identified and, to the extent possible, funded.*
 - *OHS organizes and leads budget presentations for the Office of Management and Budget, the NSC, Congress (when interested) as well as EPA senior management.*

KEY EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS:

Please check which stakeholder(s) are likely to reach out to the incoming political team about this issue. In the space provided, include concerns stakeholder(s) may raise.

☒ Congress ☐ Industry ☐ States ☐ Tribes ☐ Media ☒ Other Federal Agency
☒ NGO ☒ Other (name of stakeholder) Critical Infrastructure – Water Sector

OHS actively manages/participates in a large and diverse network of stakeholders across the interagency.

MOVING FORWARD:

Homeland security is a subset of national security for the United States. The days of EPA concerning itself only with events in the United States have passed. Significant threats to public health and the environment may come from outside the U.S. or inside and these threats have expanded in scope. Since before 9/11, national security and homeland security officials from all departments and agencies have worked to support national preparedness. National preparedness is achieved by strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters. Over time, the scope of threats to be prepared for has expanded, which requires an integrated, whole of agency approach to preparedness. OHS will work to develop an integrated approach to build and improve the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from those threats that pose the greatest risk to our security in

2020 and beyond. EPA's challenge is to continue to adapt and adjust our homeland security program to better prepare for and coordinate information sharing related to incidents large, small, local or widespread, naturally occurring or manmade related to all-hazards. Moving forward, OHS will continue to plan for the development of new statutory, Presidential, and national planning requirements, which requires broad situational awareness, especially with respect to NSC actions and programmatic activities with the interagency homeland and national security community. The office also ensures that the NSC and other lead federal entities understand the impacts of new homeland security initiatives and policies on existing EPA programs. OHS will also continue to maintain intelligence operations and analysis capabilities focusing on the protection of critical infrastructure, specifically the water sector; and defensive counterintelligence capabilities to protect against espionage and other intelligence activities targeting EPA programs, information, and staff.